

# Trentoner Donauschwaben

Volume 1, Issue 5



November-December 2001

*Special points of interest:*

- Did you know that Trenton, NJ was a major settlement for Palankaers in the U.S.A.?
- In 1867 the Dual monarchy was formed, Austria-Hungary.
- After World War I, 2/3 of Hungary was awarded to the newly formed countries of Romania & Yugoslavia.
- There are about 400,000 Donauschwaben and their descendants in the U.S. as of 1996 according to Frank Schmidt, Heimat Publishers.



**ATTACK on AMERICA  
God Bless America**

On 11 September 2001, just two days after our Club members participated in the German Heritage Festival in Holmdel, NJ, terrorists attacked our fellow Americans in New York City, Washington, D.C. and a plane over Pennsylvania. The author immediately received emails from fellow Donauschwaben contacts from all over the U.S., Canada and Europe, including Holland and Germany. They expressed their condolences and outrage at such cowardly deeds.

Since that time many countries have signed on with the American coalition to search out and destroy these terrorist that operate all over the globe. On 7 October 2001, the U.S. and Great Britain implemented their military response to those responsible in Afghanistan. In addition, we now have the Anthrax mail terror to worry about, both locally and else where on the East coast.

During these tragic events, many of us have been shocked and dismayed. For now, many of us should count our blessings and realize how fortunate we are. Please consider, if you have not already done so, making a donation to one of the bonafide relief funds.

A portion of the proceeds from our Erntedankfestessen held on 23 September here at the Club went to the American Red Cross Relief Fund. We also offered a prayer and a moment of silence to those that died during the 11 September 2001 "Attack on America".

**Dennis J. Bauer**

**STIFTUNGSFEST  
Club Anniversary a Big Success!**

Usually when one reaches the age of 45, it's a signal that a mid-life crisis is probably afoot. In men, this might mean that sports car, a Harley, sky diving and Rogaine hair tonic become important. In women, the aisle at the grocery store containing health and beauty aids, the salad bar, and the local fitness center might assume greater prominence. But for a club, turning 45 carries no such baggage. It is a milestone to be celebrated rather than one that causes anxiety. To be sure, our club's 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration this past October 20<sup>th</sup> was a wonderful occasion.

Hey, this is a big deal! Founded in 1956, this club of ours has been continuously active since before the Russians launched "Sputnik", the very first satellite! How many hundreds of members and events have we had during the last nearly half a century? How many thousands of dinners have we served? It really does hit home when you think about it. Over these past four and a half decades, we can proudly point to many, many successes in the arts, culture, and education. It seems clear that we as a club have much to celebrate.

More than 60 members and friends did just that on 20 October. Buoyed by a delicious full course Schnitzel dinner; good music by Vince Boutteon and plenty of Gemütlichkeit, it certainly looked to this writer that a good time was had by all. With such a sizable crowd on hand, the club, in turn, took the opportunity to recognize a few of its own members with some special awards. Those so recognized included: Lydia Haller, Tony Walter, Brittaney Brandecker and Anna Martini who received our "Gedicht" award. Our "Gold" award went to the very deserving Caroline Brandecker and Ulrich Haller. Congratulations to everyone!

It seemed we did surprise our good friend, Ted Hierl, in presenting him with the  
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## *Club Matters by Stefan Brandecker*

### **German Heritage Festival**

On September 9, the club took part in the annual German Heritage Festival. This was the 28th consecutive festival and all expectations for a wonderful day and show were realized. The Club and its members are only a few that work hard to ensure the day is a success.

The Clubs day begins at 6:00 A.M. at the Clubhouse. The members meet to prepare for the day, go over the check lists and load the vehicles. At the Arts Center, the pace really picks up. Time to unload and set up ( hint to Dennis Bauer: steel toe'd shoes next year? ) The crowd arrives early and fast, a sure sign of things to come. The cakes sold by our Club have always been a huge favorite of the crowd from near and far. A true testimony to the talent to all who helped with the baking.

The Club is only a small part of the festivities. With an attendance in the thousands, people come from near and far alike to enjoy and celebrate their German heritage. There were many other food vendors for those with different tastes. Not to be left out were the merchandise vendors, who filled four large tents. They sell from true traditional German knickknack to the untraditional leather paintings. New this year was a train and face painting for the kids ( big and small). Something for kids of all ages.

The show began with a mass chorus of singers from all over the Tri-State area. They did a wonderful job singing songs we all know and love. The show itself was a masterful perform-

ance as usual. Marianne and Michael opened the show and sang wonderful old German favorites like Sierra Madre Del Sur and Mariandl. They were followed by 12 year old Marie-Cristin. She has an amazing voice and a superb show for such a young age.

Following the show was a small reception next door. The Performers, VIP's and Heritage Committee members and some others gathered for a chance to mingle and relax. Music was provided by the "Show band". Ted Hierl chose this time to give some acknowledgments from Acting Governor, DeFrancesco, to all the performers.

The day turned out to be a beautiful sunny day . Thanks goes out to all of the Club's hard and dedicated workers who helped make this day such a success. It is not only our Club, but many other hard working people that work many long hours behind the scene that make this day such a success. The German Festival is one of the few events left at the Arts Center every Year. We are one of the last Festivals that operate in the black and turn a profit. The money from this festival goes to the NJ State's Cultural Fund for; free programs for Senior Citizens, school children and other residents, and scholarships.

The German Heritage Festival is a great event for You! Show your support by either helping with the Club or coming to see the Show. It will only last and thrive as long as the people support the Festival. Hope to see all of you next year .

**Some of the Club work crew at the German Heritage Festival**





## Club Matters (continued)

**(Continued from page 1 —  
the Club's 45th)**

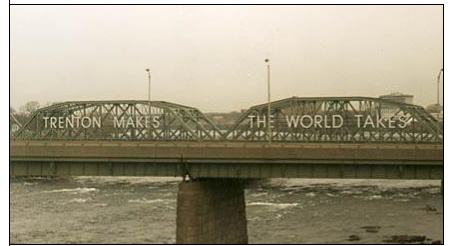
USA Donauschwaben Dachverband's special lifetime achievement award. Our club President, Joe Brandecker, did the honors, with Adam Mattes, the region's Dachverband President, as well as Philadelphia Donauschwaben's President, Fred Gauss, participating. For the past 27 years, Ted has been and continues to be a dynamo of activity in service to the greater German community. He's been a good and valuable friend to all of this area's clubs - including the Donauschwaben - and is a most deserving recipient. Wir gratulieren, Ted!

Our program also included a meaningful prayer by Harold Parr; wonderful poetry readings by Luisa, Joseph, Anna and Brittaney, as well as by Eva Martini; and, some well-chosen and

thoughtful words by our club President, Joe Brandecker.

We would be remiss if we didn't acknowledge with gratitude the 18 members of the Arbeiter Club who attended, with VP, Jim Fleming, serving as chief representative. We'd also like to thank the other club representatives, including: Fred Gauss, Adam Mattes and Theresia Masur from the Philly Donauschwaben; Stefan Mayer and Mathias Huey from the German American Society; Mrs. Cass Pinkerton from the Kolping Society; and the aforementioned Ted Hierl from the German Radio Program on 1540 AM and the German Heritage Festival.

Special thanks go to our kitchen staff for the tasty dinner; our servers for their hard work; Chuck, the talented refreshment guy; and to everyone who helped make the club's 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration a success. Prosit! **Hans Martini**



(See some photos of the event below)

Joe Brandecker, Adam Mattes, Ted Hierl,  
Fred Gauss



Joe Brandecker, Brittaney Brandecker &  
Anna Martini



Vince Boutteon & Hans Martini



# Genealogy & History Section



## PALANKAERS IN NEW JERSEY 1961

Source: Palankaer in Aller Welt 1755-1961, Palankaer Kirchweih in Trenton, NJ, Aurora Halle, 145 Morris Ave., Trenton, NJ (Transcribed by Dennis J. Bauer, 28 November 2000).

ABEL Theresa, 1785 Orchard Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 AMBROSI Anton, Sr., 1009 Anderson Street, Trenton, NJ  
 AMBROSI Anton, Jr., 1344 Deutz Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 AMS Emmerich, 133 Howell Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 ANNASENZ Magdalena, 270 Morris Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 ARMBRUSTER Petr and Rosina TRAGEISER, 154 Gridley Street, Trenton, NJ  
 BAGO Mary nee MATTES, 100 Alden Ave., Roebling, NJ  
 BARON Frank, 135 Howell Street, Trenton, NJ  
 BASLER Josef, 10 Downing Road, Trenton, NJ  
 BEER Valentin, 413 Morris Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 BELINSKY Eva nee OCHS, 326 Liberty Street, Trenton, NJ  
 BERNER Jakob, 645 McClellan Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 BERNER Franz, 1409 S. Clinton Street, Trenton, NJ  
 BIERENFELD Katharina nee MATTES, 234 Howell Street, Trenton, NJ  
 BLAESIUS Nikolaus, 1355 Liberty Street, Trenton, NJ  
 BLANCK Michael, 7 Harrison Lane, Princeton Junc., NJ  
 BORITSCH Anton, 2 West Street, Trenton, NJ  
 BRANDT Irma nee TURANSKI, 12 Overlook Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 BRETTREGER Johann, 420 E. Howell Street, Trenton, NJ  
 BRUNER Stefan, 324 Bert Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 BURG Stephen, 417 Morris Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 DEDEK Victor and Irma nee BRANDT, 6 Kirk Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 DIENES Franz, 824 Liberty Street, Trenton, NJ  
 DITTRICH Josef G., 56 Atkins Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 DROBNEK Anton, 59 Homestead Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 ENTRES Eva nee BORITSCH, 69 Reed Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 FAHR John and Mina nee TURANSKI, 14 Benton Road, Trenton, NJ  
 FRANZ Andreas, RR2, Yardville, NJ  
 FREY Karl and Eva, 105 Redfern Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 GAUG W. And Mary nee TRITSCHLER, 401 Lafayette Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 GAUS Emmerich, 668 Washington Street, Trenton, NJ  
 GISCHLAR Peter, 136 McClellan Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 HAESILI Georg, 1046 Chambers Street, Trenton, NJ  
 HAESILI Agnes, 181 Brown Street, Trenton, NJ  
 HEINEMANN Rosa nee HARTMANN, 89 Elisabeth Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 HEPP Alexander, 1035 S. Clinton Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 HERDT Franz, Sr., 1121 S. Clinton Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 HERDT Franz Josef, 419 Rowan Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 HERDT Hans, Star Route, Crosswicks, NJ  
 HIEL Charles, 831 East Drive, Bordentown, NJ  
 HIEL Antony, 33 Mae Drive, Yardville, NJ  
 HIEL Peter, 143 Howell Street, Trenton, NJ  
 HIRSCHMANN Frank and Magdalena nee KAPLA, 836 Genesee Street, Trenton, NJ  
 KAMRAD Mathias, 527 Maple Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 KAMRAT Josef, 355 Cummings Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 KARLOWITSCH Alfred, 4 West Street, Trenton, NJ  
 KELLER Josef and Eva nee WOLF, North Post Road, Trenton, NJ  
 KERN Lawrence, Sr., 144 Kinsman Road, Roebling, NJ  
 KERNAST Peter, 810 Chestnut Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 KERNAST Maria, 1005 Chestnut Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 KINAL Gregor and Theresa nee AMBROSI, 110 Alpine Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 KIRCHHOFFER Stefan, Old Trenton Road, Trenton, NJ  
 KISS Magdalena nee STETTNER, 54 Soden Drive, Trenton, NJ  
 KLEIN Sebastian, 325 Cummings Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 KLEIN Elisabeth nee FRITZ, 413 Morris Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 KLESPIES Franz, 621 Division Street, Trenton, NJ  
 KORANG Georg, 253 McClellan Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 KORNFELD John and Elisabeth nee BURG, 75 West Street, Trenton, NJ  
 KORNFELD John and Inge nee KLESPIES, 64 Andrew Street, Trenton, NJ  
 KORNFELD Martin, 323 Hewitt Street, Trenton, NJ  
 KUHN Joseph, 13 Carol Drive, Hamilton Square, NJ  
 LANG Katharina and Barbara, 31 Hewitt Street, Trenton, NJ  
 LASKOWYJ Michael and Magdalena nee TRAGEISER, 162 Gridley Street, Trenton, NJ  
 LAUTER Eva, 5 Howell Street, Trenton, NJ  
 LIEBLANG Jakob and Magdalena nee ROHRBACHER, 151 Ashmore Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 MATHES Michael, 40 Goeke Drive, Trenton, NJ  
 MATTES Eva, 309 Ashmore Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 MAYER Markus, 1822 Orchard Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 MAYER Nikolaus, 3440 S. Broad Street, Trenton, NJ  
 MIKKELSON A. and Katharina nee HERDT, 15 De Cou Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 PARUTA Hans and Maria nee TRAGEISER, 170 Gridley Street, Trenton, NJ  
 PAUTZ John and Mary, 167 Ashmore Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 PENTZ Jack and Anna nee Fritz, Redwood Ave. & Rt. 202, Bordentown, NJ  
 PILGER Jakob and Eva nee ZENTNER, 965 Schiller Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 POLLICH Josef and Anna nee HAESILI, 1046 Chambers Street, Trenton, NJ  
 POLLICH Georg, 303 Cummings Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 RADLER John and Theresa nee BAUMGARTNER, 855 Morris Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 RELINGER Maria nee JURISCH, 1725 S. Clinton Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 RISCHAR Katharina, 205 Ashmore Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 SCHMELZ Joseph and Kate, 233 Rusling Street, Trenton, NJ  
 SCHMIDT Joseph A., 1063 S. Clinton Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 SCHMITT Josef and Anna nee TRAGEISER, 146 Gridley Street, Trenton, NJ  
 SCHNEIDER Anna, Duke Farm, Somerville, NJ  
 SCHNEIDER Katharina nee WOLF, 364 Rusling Street, Trenton, NJ  
 SCHOEN Joseph, 34 Samdin Blvd., Trenton, NJ  
 SCHOEN Anna, 19 Cuyler Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 SCHOEN Michael, Sr., 1002 Anderson Street, Trenton, NJ  
 SCHOEN Josef, 268 Morris Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 SCHOEN Michael, Jr., Sylesville & Monmouth Rds., Sykesville, NJ  
 SCHOEN Peter, 103 Woodland Street, Trenton, NJ  
 SCHON Nicholas, 1053 S. Clinton Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 SPILDENER Peter, Star Route, Crosswicks, NJ  
 SPILDENER Josef and Maria nee KUHN, Star Route, Crosswicks, NJ  
 SPILDENER Michael, 23 Farmers Drive, Allentown, NJ  
 STETTNER Maria, 54 Soden Drive, Trenton, NJ  
 STETTNER Nick, Sr., 155 Logan Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 STETTNER Mary nee STRAKA, 1089 S. Clinton Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 TEICHMANN G., Linden Road, Bordentown, NJ  
 TEMMER Anton, 152 McLean Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 TIEFENBACH, 23 Farmers Drive, Allentown, NJ  
 TRAGEISER Josef, 143 Elwood Street, Trenton, NJ  
 TRAGEISER Georg, 162 Gridley Street, Trenton, NJ  
 WAGNER Theresa, 5 Howell Street, Trenton, NJ  
 WEISS Joseph, 431 Garfield Ave., Trenton, NJ  
 WILWOHL Peter, 952 Franklin Street, Trenton, NJ  
 WOLF Joseph and Katharina nee KLEIN, 203 Soden Drive, Trenton, NJ  
 ZENTNER Jakob, 77 Wolf Drive, Trenton, NJ

This is by no means a list of all those Palankaers in New Jersey and the surrounding area, only those listed in the booklet. Other lists of our ancestors & fellow Donauschwaben from other towns and villages will follow in future issues. We hope this may help someone researching their Donauschwaben roots.

# Membership News

## 2001 Club Officers & Staff

- Joseph Brandecker— President
- Robert Walter— Vice President
- Hans Martini— Secretary
- Eva Martini— Recording Secretary
- Ludwig Jakober— Treasurer
- Josefa Brandecker— Ladies' Auxiliary President
- Dennis J. Bauer— Genealogist & Newspaper Editor
- Dana Miles— Web Master



### Welcome to our newest members

**Roger and Susan Mauro and family.** Roger and Susan are computer graphic's designers by profession with a business in the area. They have two fine daughters, Cecilia and Emily. Member Mike Lenyo sponsored the Mauro's.

**Richard and Karin Burger and family.** Richard and Karin hail from California and have two children, Robin and Leslie. They are proudly part of our growing long-distance membership roster and we're very glad for their support. Member Dennis J. Bauer sponsored the Burger's. Karin is a cousin of Dennis. Her grandparents were Donauschwaben from Trenton.

Our membership continues to grow from both the Trenton area and other parts of the nation.

*Willkommen*

### Adam Martini Featured in *DER DONAUSCHWABE*

The Club's own Adam Martini was featured in the recent issue of *Der Donauschwabe* newspaper. His article "Den Toten und Überlebenden gewidmet" was featured on the front page of the 7 Oktober 2001 issue of the paper. The article was about the 23rd Wallfahrt to St. Peter's Church in Philadelphia and included a photo of those that attended the function in Philadelphia on 3 June 2001. This was the same photo that appeared in our own May-June 2001 Club newsletter.

The newspaper is written in German and is published by the Donauschwäbischer Heimatverlag in Aalen Postfach, Germany. It contains articles and updates about our fellow Donauschwaben from around the world generally is about 20 pages in length. It is a great little newspaper. It's cost is \$106 for a yearly subscription of 24 issues.

## Membership Happenings (births, engagements, weddings, deaths, anniversaries, vacation trips, graduations, etc.)

**Gute Besserung:** The Club wishes a speedy recovery to Stefan Brandecker. Steve broke his ankle recently.

The Club also wishes a speedy recovery to one of our Language School teachers, Lou Romolo. Lou had surgery last month.

**Hochzeit:** Congratulations to members, Joseph and Lisa Dlubak on their recent marriage. The club wishes them all the very best as they embark on their new life together!

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The Officers and Staff of the Club want to wish all our members a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year ! Peace on Earth and Goodwill to all. **FROHE WEINNACHTEN und ein gutes NEUES JAHR!**

**With Sympathy We Note:** Member Robert Hanks, 71. Husband of former German School teacher Lore Hanks, Robert was a frequent club visitor in years past and was well-liked for his sense of humor and wit. To his wife, and to his four children, Rebecca, Evelyn, Randy and Roland, along with grandchildren, the Donauschwaben extends its sincerest condolences. May the mercy of God shine the Everlasting Light on his soul and all the souls of the faithful departed, Amen.





# Deutsche Ecke, Seite 1

## Es war einmal - Erinnerungen von Adam Martini

Obwohl ich im Jahre 1944 erst sieben Jahre alt war, so kann ich mich doch auf verschiedene Gebräuche, sowie Feste und Alltagsereignisse erinnern.

Bukin hatte damals schon elektrischen Strom und so manche Familie hatte auch schon ein Radio gehabt, diese "neue Sachen" waren aber doch noch nicht massgebend.

Der Alltag unseres Dorfes war ganz anders verankert.

Das Jahr, mit seinen vier Jahreszeiten, diktierte und beeinflusste was gemacht werden musste. Da gab es keine Ausnahmen.

Unsere Ortsgemeinde war genau so wie viele donauschwäbische Dörfer, überwiegend bäuerlich, und das setzte den Ton für den Alltag.

Ja, da waren die Bauern, dann die Handwerker und Geschäftsleute, die Tagelöhner und natürlich die Herrenleute (Beamte, Lehrer, Ärzte u.s.w.). Diese verschiedenen Gruppen hatten ihre eigenen Gasthäuser und Verbindungen. Es machte das Dorfleben sehr interessant und abwechslungsreich. Für uns heute, mit unseren TV, Video, Auto, Flugzeuge, Computer, Shoppingcenters, Urlaubswochen und allgemeinen Stress, ist ein Rückblick in die damalige Zeit, vielleicht gar keine schlechte Idee.

So, erinnert Ihr Euch noch? - An die Adventszeit, die schwere Arbeit war vorbei, die Leute konnten sich jetzt etwas ausruhen und man ging "maja", so etwas wie ein Kaffeeklatsch. Man besuchte Freunde und Nachbarn einmal in dem Haus dann im anderen und unterhielt sich über Dorfneuigkeiten.

Auf St. Nickloos und Krampus— Auf das Christkind an Weihnachten, das meistens von einem älteren Familienmitglied, einer Tante, gespielt wurde. Das Christkind brachte immer die gewünschten Spielsachen sowie den Weihnachtsbaum. Auch hatte es eine Rute für die schlimmen Kinder.

Das Schlachten der Schweine, meistens geschah es vor Weihnachten. Es

war im Hinterhof von einem Ast oder Gestell hängend, oft ein recht fettes oder auch zwei Schweine, die dann zu Würsten, Schinken, Speck und Fleisch verarbeitet wurden. Die Nachbarn, sowie Verwandte sind dann, fast ohne Ausnahme, mit Töpfen oder Milchkannen gekommen um die gute Worschtsupp (Wurstsuppe) abzuholen. Heutzutage isst man das nicht mehr.

An die Kirchweih... Bei uns in Bukin war sie immer anfangs Juni. Eine festliche Zeit, wo das Ringelspiel und viele Stände und Buden mit allerlei Sachen mitten im Dorf standen und jeder mitfeierte. Wie herrlich es doch war - damals.

Die Weinlesezeit., der neue Wein, immer Kostproben, wer den besseren Wein hatte. Auch als Kind war man dabei, ich denke es hat uns nicht allzuviel geschädigt.

Da waren die Hochzeiten, die oft einige Tage dauerten, man ging heim fütterte das Vieh und ging wieder zurück zur Feier. Heute müssen wir bei 10 oder 11 Uhr rauss aus der Halle. Jeder Anlass, Geburt eines Kindes, Taufe, Firmung, Heirat und Tot, wurde gefeiert. Es waren wichtige Ereignisse, man war dabei, man liess sich Zeit, ehrte die Person. Heute sieht man diese Feste meistens als eine Obligation, also ein Muss.

Ich erinnere mich noch ganz gut an meinen Vater, der ein Tischlermeister war und sich nicht viel mit Feld und Weingarten abgab, die Tagelöhner und ein Bauer machten die Arbeit für uns. Aber wenn es zum Rebenspritzen kam mit "Karnitzel" (ein Spritzmittel), da war er ganz ausser sich. Ich musste ihn dann begleiten.

Der Weingarten war ausserhalb Bukin, so mitten in der flachen Feldern. Die Rebenreihen schön und gerade und in der Mitte ein kleines Lehmhaus mit einem grossen Behälter nebenan fürs Regenwasser. Zwischen den Reben gab es kleine Obstbäume, ein unbeschreiblich schöner Anblick, es war wie ein Paradies für mich. Ich konnte spielen mit der warmen Erde, während mein Vater die Reben spritzte, mit einer Schulterspritze. Um 12 Uhr mittags musste er mich finden und dann gingen wir in die alte Lehmhütte.

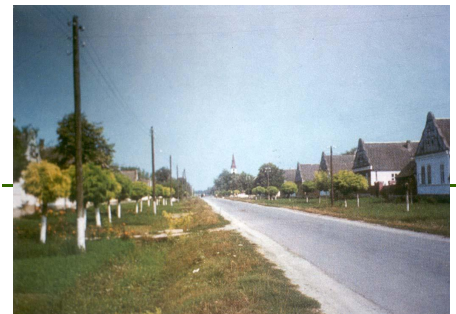
Da war es kühl, den in der Batschka ist die Sonne heiss am Mittag. Es war nicht nur kühl in der Hütte, wir waren auch geschützt von der grellen Mittagssonne. Dann packte er den Speck und das Brot aus, sowie Zwiebel und eine Flasche Wein. Es wurde gegessen und getrunken ohne viel Gespräch, dann legten wir uns hin und schliefen für Stunden. Das waren Zeiten. So erinnere ich mich an meinen Vater.

Da könnte man noch vielmehr über unser Dorfleben schreiben. Man könnte Bücher füllen mit Erlebnissen und Bräuche, aber das war einmal—Heute haben wir Fernsehen, Video, Stress, Angst und Sorgen, es ist der moderne Alltag.

Auch jetzt werden sich bleibende Erinnerungen formen.

Jede Generation schreibt ihre eigene Geschichte. Wir versuchen unsere Herkunft als Fundament für die Zukunft zu benutzen und so, mit unseren Kindern und Enkelkindern einen neuen und modernen Alltag aufzubauen. Es war einmal.....

(See English translation on page 7)



**A residential street in Bukin**

## Deutsche Ecke, Seite 2

### What a wonderful time we had...

#### *Reminiscences of Adam Martini*

Although I was just seven years old back in 1944, I still remember quite clearly some of the many traditions, celebrations and elements of everyday life in my Donauschwaben hometown of Bukin, Yugoslavia.

Bukin had by this time electrical service and many families already owned radios. This "new thing", however, wasn't yet found in every home. In fact, everyday life in our village was still centered on things other than listening to the radio.

The year, with its seasonal changes, dictated and influenced what we did and how we conducted ourselves. Here there were no exceptions. Our village, like so many other Donauschwaben villages, was primarily a farming community. The needs and concerns of the farmer set the tone and pace of life. Of course, there were also other professions too: tradesmen, businessmen, laborers and the upper stratum of society comprising government officials, teachers, doctors, etc. While all of these different groups intermingled at various times they also had separate social circles extending even to which Gasthaus they would feel most welcome. It gave our village life a wonderfully simple yet dynamic and vibrant quality.

In this day and age of the computer, mass media, mass transportation, mega malls, mega vacations and the accompanying stress, perhaps a look back to a less complicated way of life isn't such a bad idea!

I remember... The time of Advent... The difficult work of the harvest was at an end and many could relax a little. One could now enjoy going "maja" (pronounced: my-ya), something akin to a coffeeklatsch. Friends and neighbors would take turns hosting each other, going over the latest news and interesting tidbits of life in Bukin.

St. Nicholas, Krampus and Christmas time... Usually a senior member of the family, often an older aunt, would get the job of Christkind (akin to a religious Santa Claus in the form of an older Christchild). The Christkind would bring the wished for presents and the Christmas tree. At the same time, a switch was brought along for those who might misbehave!

Butchering pigs... This usually occurred just before Christmas in the backyard of one's home. The fattened pig or two would hang from a sturdy branch or a constructed stand for processing. Out of the meat, fat and

other usable elements of the pig would come sausages (Wurst), bacon, pork and ham. The process of making especially liverwurst involved a huge cooking pot where the parts of the sausage would cook prior to going into the casings. This also produced gallons of very rich tasting soup. Neighbors and relatives would come with pots or milk cans to take some of this valuable soup home. Today we don't even think of using such a byproduct!

Kirchweih (Church founding celebration)... In Bukin we had this celebration at the beginning of June. It was a most enjoyable time for every member of the community. Carnival attractions, along concession and arts & crafts stands would be set up in the middle of town to help create a most festive atmosphere. How wonderful those times in Bukin were!

Wine tasting time... When the new wine was ready the traditional wine-tasting would commence. Everyone test-tasted each other's wine to see which one was the best. Even the smallest children would be allowed a sampling – something unheard of today but which never did any harm back then it seemed.

Weddings, etc.... Weddings could go on for days! People would literally go home, tend to the livestock, and return to continue the wedding celebration. How different is this from what we do today! Every important occasion, whether the birth of a child, a christening, confirmation, wedding; or death would be appropriately recognized. These were considered very important events in the community and one would always take the necessary time to participate. It was part and parcel of the respect one accorded to one's fellow man.

My father and his vineyard... I remember my father, Johann, a master cabinet-maker with a couple of employees, had little time leftover for gardening and his vineyard. Instead, as was customary, a neighboring farmer and laborers would be compensated to do the work for him. One of the jobs he did do, however, was spraying the vines in the vineyard - a job for which he always made time. I recall accompanying him on those occasions.

The vineyard was not far outside of Bukin, located in the midst of some fields. The grapevines were arranged in straight and orderly rows with a small clay building in the center. Next to the little house stood barrels meant to catch rainwater from the run-off. Small fruit trees dotted the areas between the rows of vines making for a most idyllic set-

ting. It was very much like paradise to my mind. I could play in the very inviting earth while my father would attend to his spraying.

At noon, he would find me and we would walk to the cool clay house and out of the very hot summer sun. There we quietly had a very tasty lunch, consisting of bread, bacon, onions perhaps, and some wine. Afterwards, we would lie down for a couple of hours until the midday heat subsided. Those were splendid times for a young boy from Bukin. They are also some of the very best reminiscences I have of my father.

So much could be written about life in my small town. One could fill many volumes on just the traditions and life experiences alone. But that seems now all so far in the past... Today we seem to have such a different reality. To someone like myself, the stress and worries of today makes the memory of those wonderful times in that small town called Bukin all the more precious.

We Donauschwaben use our rich heritage as a basis upon which our offspring and their offspring might benefit. Indeed, every generation writes it's own history. Despite all of the present uncertainties and stresses, many good and positive things happen every day. Just like my memories of times past, our children and grandchildren will no doubt look back on these times and say: "*what a wonderful time we had...*"

*(Translation by Hans Martini)*



**The Bukin Catholic church**



# Deutsche Ecke, Seite 3

**Fortsetzung  
von Käthe Marx**

**PALANKA**

Eine lange Kastanien Allee führte manchen Spaziergänger bis zur Donau hinunter, mit dem Ausblick auf Ilok, mit der Antonius-Kirche auf dem Berg, dahin kam man per Strasse auf Umwegen oder man musste über 300 Stiegen steigen, nachdem man die Donau mit dem "Josef" ein kleines Schiff und eine Plette, überquert hat. Alle 30 Minuten ging es hin und her.

Neben dem Fluss gab es sehr gutes Land, des Ried. Da waren viele Weiden angepflanzt, es war oft überschwemmt. Sogar Weingärten die etwas höher lagen grenzten an dieses Ried. Es gab hier viele tausende Vergiss-mein-nicht, ein Duft und würzige Luft die ich nirgends in der Welt mehr angetroffen habe, eine wunderschöne Stätte die ich als Kind erleben durfte, noch gut in Erinnerung habe.

Richtung Obrovac gab es einen sehr grossen Akazienwald. Die Bienezüchter kamen zur Blütezeit für einige Wochen dahin um den hellen Akazien-Honig zu zeugen. Am anderen Ende vom Wald, Richtung Türkenhügel, stand ein Zement-Kreuz mit der Inschrift: "Ich bin der Weg, die Wahrheit und das Leben".

In diesem Wald fanden fast 200 Männer und Burschen ihre ewige Ruhestätte, als die Greuelthaten im Oktober und November, 1944, verübt wurden, an unschuldigen Menschen unseres Stammes.

Am 29. November, 1944, wurde Palanka interniert von der Tito-Regierung und die Sonne ging für uns unter. Es folgten Leid, Hunger, Tod, zuletzt die Flucht der Überlebenden. Heute sind wir überall zerstreut in vielen Ländern und Kontinenten.

Palanka und Neu-Palanka hat 1,073 Opfer zu beklagen, die das Lager und den Krieg nicht überlebt haben. Möge sie alle ruhen in Frieden!

\*\*\*\*\*

**Kindheit  
von Helene Singler**

Wenn ich die Augen schliesse  
Ist die Heimat mir ganz nah  
Vertraute Menschen, Hof und  
Spiele, S'ist alles so wie einst ich's  
sah.

Ich hör' die Kinderlieder  
Das Herz wird ganz und weit  
Die Erinnerung geht wieder  
Zurück in ferne Zeit.

Da klingt das Lied der Heimat mir  
Strömt in mein Herz hinein  
Dem Herrgott dank ich dafür, Das  
dort ich Kind durft sein.

**1st Holy Communion—Batsch**



**Stefan Jager Painting**

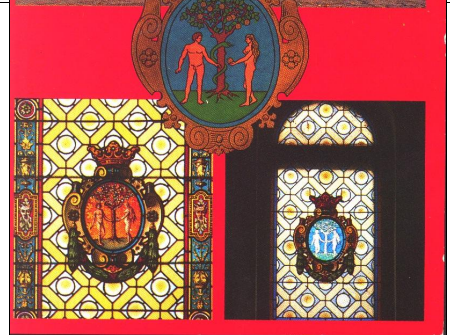
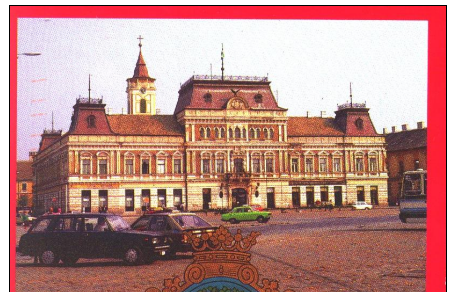


**NEW GERMAN LANGUAGE  
SCHOOL  
TEACHING TEAM**

This years adult German Language School started 26 September 2001. We have arranged for Kurt Mueller to fill in for Lou Romolo during his medical recovery and teach the Advance class. Brigitte Kleinmann is scheduled to teach the Beginners Class if we get enough students. Until then, Kurt makes us "beginners" feel right at home (zu Hause, bei uns dat).

It is not to late to enroll, especially you Beginners. So stop by on a Wednesday night at 7:30 pm and join us in the fun of learning the language of our ancestors. We have a good time, before class, in class and after class. Join us at the bar over a drink, conversation and fellowship.

**A post card from Baja (Frankenstadt),  
formerly in Batschka, Austria-Hungary,  
now in Hungary.**



**Baja — Hungary**



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***Vielen Dank! Thank you for your support — from the Secretary's desk, Hans***  
**The club turns 45 in a time of crisis...**

As news of terrorism, war and suffering invades the relative peacefulness of our lives, it's perhaps a good time to reflect on the usefulness of institutions like this Donauschwaben Club of ours. I believe the Club has a role to play in the current crisis we as Americans are now facing. Along with churches and other important institutions, social and community service organizations like the Donauschwaben will help in making our society a more peaceful and rewarding place to be despite all that is happening around us.

Indeed, our Club was founded in the aftermath of the worst man-made calamity in history: WWII. In fact, when the individuals gathered in Trenton back in 1956 to form our organization, the images of the worst things imaginable were still very much a fresh memory. Especially for the Donauschwaben in Yugoslavia and elsewhere, there was little "peace" following the end of the war in Europe, terror and brutality were a fact of everyday life.

Against this background of tragedy, but in a spirit of renewable and enthusiasm, our Club was born. Meant as a self-help organization for new immigrants and a meeting place for like-minded individuals, our Club has evolved in many different ways to address the needs of many different people over these past 45 years. We've had numerous successes in education, arts and culture, and historical preservation all in the service of four generations of Donauschwaben members... and all the while having many fun and memorable times! Hundreds of members of every age have passed through our doors in the past and many wonderful members continue to do so today. Our Club can be proud of four and half decades of positive and creative work in our German community here in America.

I believe the current national crisis highlights the usefulness of this Donauschwaben Club as never before. We proudly remain a place for language, historical and genealogical education; a place that honors the traditions of our ancestors in the areas of food, costume and festival; and a supporter of fellow German organizations and undertakings.. In some small way, however, this topsy-turvy time has given our club renewed meaning.. **After 45 successful years of hard work and determination, ladies and gentlemen, the Donauschwaben is, above all, a place where we can all feel welcome.**

**Hans Martini**

# Club Events for the Fall/Winter of 2001/2002

## EVENTS— DATES & TIMES

- \* *Schlachtfest* — Sunday, 1 & 3PM  
18 November 2001
- \* *St. Nikolausfeier* -- Sunday, 1PM  
9 December 2001
- \* *Silvesterfeier* — Monday, 31 December  
2001
- \* *Winteressen*— Sunday, 1PM  
20 January 2002
- \* *Annual Meeting*— Sunday, 27 January  
2002
- \* *Schlachtfest*— Sunday, 1 & 3PM  
10 February 2002
- \* *Osteressen*— Sunday, 24 March 2002

Please call Frau Josefa Brandecker at (609)  
585-8460 for meal reservations.

## Vielen Dank !

A special thanks goes out to our wonderful food preparers, cooks, dishwashers, servers and bartenders. Without their hard work, our dinners would not be the success that they are. Danke schön !



Though certainly not necessary, feel free to tip our young servers. Young, hard workers are hard to come by. They appreciate it!

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Eva Martini, reading German poetry at the Club's 45th Anniversary Dinner

